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Security Council

Fifty-eighth year

Provisional

4797th meeting

Monday, 28 July 2003, 10 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Arias	(Spain)
Members:	Angola	Mr. Gaspar Martins
	Bulgaria	Mr. Raytchev
	Cameroon	Mr. Chungong Ayafor
	Chile	Mr. Andereya
	China	Mr. Cheng Jingye
	France	Mr. De La Sablière
	Germany	Mr. Pleuger
	Guinea	Mr. Cheick Ahmed Tidiane Camara
	Mexico	Mrs. Arce de Jeannet
	Pakistan	Mr. Khalid
	Russian Federation	Mr. Gatilov
	Syrian Arab Republic	Mr. Mekdad
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Thomson
	United States of America	Mr. Negroponte

Agenda

The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Second special report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/2003/566 and Corr.1)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Second special report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/2003/566/ and Corr.1)

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): I should like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in which he requests to be invited to participate in the discussion of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite that representative to participate in the discussion, without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Ileka (Democratic Republic of the Congo) took a seat at the Council table.

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2003/566 and Corr.1, containing the second special report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Members have document S/2003/653, which contains the report of the Security Council mission to Central Africa. Members also have before them document S/2003/757, which contains the text of a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. Unless I hear any objection, I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Angola, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Chile, Ch
France, Germany, Guinea, Mexico, Paki
Russian Federation, Spain, Syrian Arab Repu
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Nort
Ireland, United States of America

The President: There were 15 votes in fav
The draft resolution has been adopted unanimousl
resolution 1493 (2003).

I should now like to give the floor to
Secretary-General.

The Secretary-General: I congratulate
Security Council on unanimously adopting
resolution and giving the United Nations Organiza
Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Co
(MONUC) the strong mandate it needs to fulfi
difficult mission in the Democratic Republic of
Congo.

The political and military leaders in
Democratic Republic of the Congo have t
important steps in the past month to inaugurate
Transitional Government. This is now in place. Bu
road ahead over the next two to three years tow
free and fair elections will be difficult.

I am grateful to the Council for its strong supp
especially in relation to the situation in the no
eastern part of the country. Through resolution
(2003), in which it authorized the Interim Emerg
Multinational Force, the Council has shown th
timely and effective response by the internati
community can put an end to violence. That Int
Force has also served as an effective stop
mechanism, giving MONUC and the Departmen
Peacekeeping Operations sufficient time to deplo
expanded military force in Bunia.

Through the resolution adopted today,
Security Council has placed MONUC, in coordina
with United Nations agencies and donors, in a key
to help the Congolese achieve a sustainable p
leading up to a democratically elected Governmer
will be necessary for the international communit
provide the resources needed to implement this
reaching resolution.

In the final analysis, however, there will b
substitute for the resolve of the Congolese leade

implement their commitment to peace. It is my sincere hope that they will continue to do so and thereby bring an end to the terrible suffering that has been endured by the Congolese people for too long.

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): I thank the Secretary-General for his support and for his statement.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council will remain seized of the matter.

The meeting rose at 10.20 a.m.